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ARAB LEAGUE SESSION CONCLUDES; RIYAD COMMENTS

NC142205Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2010 GMT 14 Sep 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 14 September--The Arab League Council tonight concluded its 70th session. The session, which was held at the foreign ministers level, began last Tuesday.

Arab League Secretary General Mahmud Riyad stated after the meeting that the council approved the recommendations of various committees and the league's budget for the new fiscal year, which amounts to about $15 million. This is $1.2 million more than last year's budget.

The secretary general said that in view of the economic development, the council amended the contributions of some Arab states to the league's budget. Some states will contribute the maximum; that is, 15 percent of the budget; while some others will contribute the minimum; that is, 1 percent of the budget. The council agreed to exempt Palestine and Djibouti from contributing to the budget in view of their circumstances. Their share will be borne by other member states.

Answering a question about the council's discussion of the restoration of Arab solidarity, Mahmud Riyad said that the council has affirmed its support for the Arab Solidarity Committee and its eagerness to eliminate the difficulties this committee is encountering in its work. The council did not propose a specific plan of action for the committee in the next phase, since it reckons that time will bring about changes that will contribute toward easing the committee's work and moves to reach its goal.

Mahmud Riyad said that some Arab states will make efforts in the coming phase to consolidate Arab solidarity.

Asked whether the absence of the rejection front group has affected the league's work, the secretary general said that he would not deny the effect of the group's absence, which he said, could reflect upon joint Arab action.

He added that the Arab nation could exercise all its joint efforts through unified action. At the same time, he said, there is nothing to prevent us from working together within the limits of what we agreed upon and from attempting to solve our differences at the same time. Riyad cited as an example the meetings of the Arab Economic Council last week in Baghdad. These meetings were attended by all the Arab states, and important resolutions were adopted in the economic field despite the political differences among some Arab states.

The Arab League Council began its 70th session last Tuesday under the chairmanship of the Somali foreign minister. The meetings were attended by nine Arab foreign ministers and seven permanent representatives to the Arab League.

The council discussed at this session several subjects, including ways and means to consolidate Arab solidarity, Arab-African cooperation, the Arab-European dialog, Arab coordination at the UN General Assembly meetings and the Arab nominations for UN positions. The council also approved the league's budget for the new fiscal year.

'ARAFAT HOLDS CONTACTS ON MISSING IMAM AS-SADR

JN1418l2Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1915 GMT 14 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Leader Abu 'Ammar is showing great concern over the missing Imam Musa as-Sadr, chairman of the Supreme Islamic Shi'ite Council. Brother Abu 'Ammar has met with the members of the Supreme Islamic Shi'ite Council and discussed with them the recent developments in this issue. In this respect, brother Abu 'Ammar held extensive contacts with Algerian President Houari Boumediene, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and directed envoys to Rome, Paris and Tripoli for the same reason.

Staff Col Abu al-Mu'tasim has arrived in the Libyan capital, Tripoli, carrying messages from brother Abu 'Ammar to Libyan officials dealing with the issue of the missing imam. Yesterday a member of the Fatah Central Committee left for Rome to discuss the issue with Italian officials.

Regarding the same issue, Iranian Shi'ite Imam Ayatollah Khomeini last evening called brother Abu 'Ammar and discussed the issue of the missing Imam as-Sadr. Imam Khomeini assured brother Abu 'Ammar that he knows nothing about the disappearance of Imam Musa as-Sadr. He appealed to brother Abu 'Ammar to help expose the sides responsible for the disappearance of Imam as-Sadr.

'ARAFAT MEETS PALESTINIAN WRITERS SECRETARIAT

JN141713Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1600 GMT 14 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Last night brother Abu 'Ammar received members of the General Secretariat of the Palestinian Writers and Journalists Union. Leader Abu 'Ammar acquainted the members of the General Secretariat with the current political developments at all Palestinian, Arab and international levels. Members of the General Secretariat appealed to brother Abu 'Ammar to hold monthly meetings with them to discuss the situation and problems of the union.

INTERVIEW WITH PFLP'S ABU SHARIF REPORTED

LD141230Y Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 8 Sep 78 p 14 LD

[Text] Bassam Abu Sharif, official spokesman of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], has said that the Camp David summit will be followed by an escalation of violence in Lebanon.

Abu Sharif speculated that the Camp David conference will issue "misleading" statements about the continuation of talks between Egypt and Israel. In an interview with the magazine MONDAY MORNING, Abu Sharif spoke about the PFLP's relations with Syria and Egypt as well as relations between Palestinian organizations. The following is the text of the interview:

[Question] You recently visited Damascus at the head of a PFLP delegation. What is the significance of the visit? Does it imply a change in alliances and was it dictated by current developments in the area?

[Answer] Our visit to Damascus does not represent any change in the nature of our alliances or in the principles on which such alliances are based. At this juncture we view political attitudes (attitudes of states and parties) toward settlement plans as the bases of our alliances.

Our visit to Damascus came at a time when important developments were taking place in the Arab world in general and in Lebanon in particular. These developments are closely linked to the steps which As-Sadat has taken since his treasonous visit to occupied Jerusalem.

The states and forces which met at the Tripoli summit adopted a stand opposed to As-Sadat's plan, thereby paving the way for coordination among them to thwart As-Sadat's plan for subjecting the area to the will of Zionism and the United States.

There is no doubt that the events which followed the Tripoli summit--particularly those related to the fighting in Lebanon--have widened the area of agreement (between the states and forces which attended the summit).

Given this perspective, our visit to Damascus is of special significance: It represents an expression of the objective bases of the agreement that was brought about by political developments and the attitude that Syria adopted toward such developments.

[Question] How do you evaluate the outcome of your visit and your talks with Foreign Minister Khaddam?

[Answer] We held a frank and thorough discussion of the Middle East situation and the Camp David meeting. We also discussed the question of Palestinian national unity and ways to achieve it. We also discussed the situation in Lebanon and the possibility of convening a summit conference of the front of steadfastness and confrontation. I can say that our discussions were positive.

[Question] Will Dr George Habash visit Damascus?

[Answer] President Hafiz al-Asad invited Dr Habash to visit Damascus when we met at the Tripoli summit. 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam has renewed the invitation. The date of the visit will be fixed later.

[Question] Can the rapprochement between the PFLP and Syria be taken to imply the PFLP's estrangement from Iraq?

[Answer] There is a strong alliance between the PFLP and Iraq, which is based on their political evaluation of the nature of the current stage and their attitudes toward the settlement plans that are currently being proposed.

The meeting in Damascus in no way implies that our attitude toward our alliance with Iraq has changed. Rather, it is the contrary. We believe that our ability to reject these settlement plans will be enhanced and our ability to play a bigger role in developing the program of the front of steadfastness and confrontation will be increased.

[Question] How do you view Iraq's recent attitude toward the PLO and its representatives abroad, and how do you explain Iraq's support for Abu Nidal?

[Answer] We oppose the use of violence as a means for solving disputes within the ranks of the Palestinian revolution or between the revolution and other progressive forces.

We have strongly condemned the political assassinations that took place recently and the attack on the Al-Baddawi camp in northern Lebanon. We have also condemned the attacks on Iraqi embassies.

We believe that the use of force in settling disputes within the revolution is the result of a political and mental deficiency on the part of those who resorted to this method.

[Question] Is the PFLP concerned with the current worldwide war between the PLO and the Abu Nidal group?

[Answer] The PFLP is doing everything it can to promote democratic dialog as a means for settling differences in the ranks of and between revolutionary organizations.

We played a major role during the Al-Baddawi incidents and the period of political assassinations. These efforts will continue, because promoting democratic dialog helps the revolution avoid traps set for it and thwart attempts by the enemies of the revolution to strike at it.

[Question] In the PFLP's opinion, what is the greatest danger threatening the revolution today?

[Answer] The basic danger lies in the attempt by the United States, the Zionist enemy and reactionary Arabs to liquidate the Palestinian problem through the proposed settlement plans. This danger takes numerous forms, some of which are foreign, as we see in the war in southern Lebanon, and some are internal, as we see in the attempts to create disagreements between the revolutionary organizations.

[Question] How do you view the outcome of the Camp David summit, particularly with regard to the Palestinian problem?

[Answer] The Palestinian problem will be the basic item on the Camp David agenda, because the major differences at the meetings in Leeds Castle concerned the future of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, which the conferees considered essential in any "declaration of principles."

We believe that Begin will adhere to his plan, which provides for seizing the West Bank and making it an indivisible part of Israel. We also believe that the present balance of power will not allow any further concessions by As-Sadat to the Zionist enemy.

We expect the immediate result of the Camp David summit to be the issuance of misleading political statements intended to create the impression that negotiations are continuing. We also expect the Camp David summit to be followed by an escalation in the attacks by Zionists, fascists and reactionaries against the progressive Arab forces in general and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement and the Palestinian revolution in particular. We further expect that the attacks will not be confined to Lebanon, although Lebanon may get the biggest share because of the presence of fascist forces involved in the Zionist plan.

FATAH OFFICIAL MEETS WITH ARGENTINE MONTENEROS

JN121801Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1600 GMT 12 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], member of the Fatah Central Committee and of the Al-'Asifah Forces General Command, yesterday met with a delegation from the Argentine Peronist Montenero movement currently visiting the Palestinian revolution. The delegation includes Commander Hernan, leader of the Monteneros army, and Major [name indistinct], director of relations and equipment in the army.

The radio correspondent has learned that detailed discussions were conducted between Brother Abu Jihad and the Monteneros delegation. The discussions focused on the relations between the Palestinian revolution and the Monteneros. The two sides also reviewed recent military and political developments in the Palestinian and Argentine arenas.

The delegation earlier visited Palestinian revolution bases in the south and met with the command and fighters of the revolution. The delegation also visited Palestinian revolution establishments and became acquainted with some of the productive and social activities conducted there.

BAGHDAD VOP: NEW POLITICAL ARRANGEMENTS IN WEST BANK

JN141943Y Baghdad Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1830 GMT 14 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Within their expansionist plans, the Zionist enemy authorities in cooperation with the Jordanian regime are backing some Palestinian leaders in their attempts to form dubious setups with the aim of propagating the policy of the Zionist enemy and the Jordanian regime in establishing so-called self-rule in the West Bank.

News from the occupied West Bank says that the Zionist authorities have directed Mustafa Dudin to form what is called the general administration of the villages of the Al-Khalil Governorate. Jawdat (?as-Sawal), head of the village council in the town of 'Asirahash-Shamaliyah, has submitted a peitition to the Zionist military governor of Nabulus seeking permission to form a setup similiar to that formed in Hebron.

It will be recalled that our Palestinian masses have always opposed the formation of such dubious setups which are aimed at cooperating with the enemy under different names in order to realize the enemy aim of setting up self-rule in the West Bank. This call to form such setups comes in the wake of Begin's suggestion of self-rule in the West Bank with the cooperation of the king of the Jordanian regime.

SAUDI ARABIA

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER COMMENTS ON CAMP DAVID, DOLLAR

LD142326Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2230 GMT 14 Sep 78 LD

[Text] His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdullah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and commander of the national guard, has affirmed that the kingdom has spared no effort in supporting the Palestine question and the retrieval of all the territories occupied in 1967. He added that the kingdom pursues an objective diplomacy to attain this goal.

He said that Arab solidarity is the true way to solve all the Arab's problems. He added that the kingdom believes that differences over methods should not lead to divisions and rifts among the Arabs and should not distract us from attention to the goal.

Prince 'Abdullah was speaking in an interview with the London newspaper AL-'ARAB, which will be published tomorrow, Friday.

Referring to the Camp David conference, his highness said that if this conference fails, there will be ugly and grave consequences, the effects of which might extend beyond the Middle East into the whole world. He expressed the belief that it is high time for the Israeli entity to realize that the road to peace does not lie in stubborness, haughtiness, usurpation, aggression and the negation of the most fundamental rights of peoples--namely, their right to self-determination.

Speaking of the arms deals concluded by the kingdom, his highness affirmed that the kingdom does not at all seek from this to aggress upon anyone, but only to establish an effective force to serve Arabism and Islam. He added: Our religion dictates that we make ourselves strong and refrain from aggression and oppression.

His highness pointed out that the national guards and the army constitute an integral force and no differentiation can be made between them at times of crisis. He declared that at present, the national guards are implementing a modern program which will turn it into a prominent striking force among the Arab forces.

Prince 'Abdullah pointed out that the kingdom fights communism because it basically conflicts with Islam and because it is only a cover camouflaging a new imperialism. He added that the kingdom only fights communism in response to the dictates of our religion, in defense of our Arabism and in line with our humanity.

Speaking of the kingdom's support for the dollar as the currency for oil accounting, his highness said this was not due to any political factors but due to purely economic considerations. He added that the currency muddle which governs the world today cannot be dealt with by dealing blows to the dollar, particularly now that the dollar has become a currency unit forming a basic factor in bolstering other currencies. He added: We must not overlook the fact that the fields for investment of the dollar are much wider than those of any other currency. We must also not forget the inflation from which the world suffers and the effect the dollar can have in remedying it.

OFFICIAL SOURCE ON NATURAL GAS PRODUCTION

LD1311836Y Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 8 Sep 78 p 2 LD

[Text] An official source has stated that exports from the state gas project proposed for the eastern area are expected to represent 31 percent of the world's gas market in 1985. According to market research, the United States and Japan are expected to top the list of countries importing gas from the plant's production. U.S. imports are expected to reach about 6 million tons, Japan's about 10 million tons, and Europe's over 1 million tons.

The source said that the market potential for absorbing the gas plant production is good and optimistic. Current studies indicate that in 1985 the United States will need more than 20 million tons annually and Japan 15 million tons, which calls for expediting implementation of the project in order to meet the future needs of these and other countries, particularly as the source of gas--crude oil--is sufficiently available to make its prices competitive with the price of gas from other countries.

It is worth noting that that average availability of gas in the kingdom is estimated at 500 million cubic feet for every million barrels of oil produced. Consequently, the average current production is 3.82 million cubic feet daily, a large part of which is consumed locally.

UAE

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS FROM CAIRO ARAB LEAGUE MEETING

JN150810Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0720 GMT 15 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 15 September--Foreign Minister His Excellency Rashid 'Abdallah returned home from Cairo this morning after leading the UAE delegation to the meetings of the 70th session of the Arab League Council.

The council, which started its work last Tuesday, approved an Arab League budget of $15 million for the new fiscal year.

INDIAN MILITARY DELEGATION LEAVES AFTER 4-DAY VISIT

JN150933Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0745 GMT 15 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Dubai, 15 September--The delegation of the Indian Defense College left this morning for home following a 4-day visit during which talks were held with officials at the Defense Ministry and the armed forces general command. The delegation was seen off by a number of senior army officers.

In a statement prior to his departure, the head of the delegation, Marshal Chadiok, expressed admiration for the high standards and rapid progress of the UAE Armed Forces as a result of the prudent leadership of the country. He added that the basic aim of the delegation's visit was to become acquainted with officials here and learn about national strategy in the field of military affairs so as apply the benefits to military study and training at the Indian National Defense College.

The members of the delegation are students from the college.

MALDIVIAN TRANSPORT MINISTER ARRIVES IN ABU DHABI

JN150745Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0715 GMT 15 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 15 September--Maldivian Transport Minister Maumoon Abdul Gayoom arrived here this morning leading an economic delegation on a 3-day visit to the UAE during which he will hold talks with officials of the Abu Dhabi Arab Economic Development Fund aimed at signing an agreement to finance the (Halulu) airport project in the Maldives.

The delegation was received by Nasir an-Nuwayyis, director general of the fund.

YEMEN-PDRY

ADEN ISSUES STATEMENT ON ALLEGED AIRSPACE VIOLATION

LD141644Y Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 14 Sep 78 LD/EA

[Text] A responsible source at the PDRY Foreign Ministry had made a statement on the new allegations by a so-called responsible military source in the general command of the San'a' government. The following is the text of the statement:

It is with deep regret that we heard a new allegation by a so-called responsible military source in the general command of the San'a' government in which it accuses our military aircraft of violating the airspace of the northern part of our homeland.

The PDRY Government, while strongly denying these fabricated allegations, wishes to reaffirm to our Yemeni people in the two parts of the homeland and to Arab and world opinion its concern for stability in the area because those who provoke the fabrication of incidents and the straining of the atmosphere do not have the true interests of our Yemeni people at heart and are seeking to drive a wedge between Yemenis.

Our Yemeni people are well aware of who is provoking an explosive situation; who is refusing to sit at the negotiating table and who is working to the detriment of gains achieved by the blood of their martyrs and the sweat of their sons. The Government of the PDRY makes clear its stand on these allegations and trivialities of the Sana'a' government and will not flag in defense of the gains of our Yemeni people and their national sovereignty.

MUHAMMAD HOLDS TALKS WITH CUBAN TRANSPORT MINISTER

LD141652Y Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 14 Sep 78 LD/EA

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Presidential Council and the Council of Ministers, met at noon today in his office with Comrade Antonio Enr[illegible]ue Lusson, member of the Central Committee of the Cuban Communist Party and transport minister of the Socialist Republic of Cuba. During the meeting a cordial discussion took place between the brother chairman and the Cuban minister which dealt with numerous issues concerning the development of relations of cooperation and friendship between the two countries.

The Cuban minister also informed the brother chairman of the decision by the Socialist Republic of Cuba to present a solidarity gift to Democratic Yemen which includes 10,000 tons of sugar. The brother chairman expressed his appreciation for this solidarity gift and the assistance which the Socialist Republic of Cuba has given and still is giving to our country. He praised the development of relations of cooperation and friendship between the governments and peoples of the two friendly countries. The Cuban transport minister stressed the solidarity of the Socialist Republic of Cuba with the struggle of the Yemeni people and with the revolution and the progressive regimes in Democratic Yemen.

SOVIET AMBASSADOR DELIVERS KOSYGIN MESSAGE TO MUHAMMAD

JN141517Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1505 GMT 14 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Aden, 14 September--'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the PDRY Presidential Council, has received a written message from Aleksey Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. It was stated here today that the message is in reply to the message sent by Nasir Muhammad to Kosygin earlier this month. Nothing has been revealed about the contents of the two messages. The message was conveyed by the Soviet ambassador in Aden during his meeting with 'Ali Nasir Muhammad today.

BRIEFS

GULF STATES REVALUE CURRENCY--Abu Dhabi, 14 September--The UAE today announced the revaluation of the dirham against the dollar. According to this revaluation, the price of the dirham compared to the dollar rose from 3.880 dirhams for selling and 3.876 dirhams for buying yesterday to 3.860 dirhams for selling and 3.856 dirhams for buying today. In Doha, the Qatari monetary board announced the revaluation of the Qatari riyal against the U.S. dollar. According to the revaluation, the new selling price for the dollar becomes 3.9687 [as received] Qatari riyals for each dollar as of this morning. The old price of the dollar until yesterday was 3.8887 [as received] riyals for each dollar. Thus the Qatari monetary board has revalued the Qatari riyal against the dollar by 0.05 percent. [Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0955 GMT 14 Sep 78 JN]

AL-AKHBAR: CAMP DAVID IN 'LAST DESPERATE MOMENTS'

NC150656Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0620 GMT 15 Sep 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 15 September--In its edition this morning the newspaper AL-AKHBAR reports that the Camp David conference is now passing through its last desperate moments and that the conclusion of the conference is expected to be announced at any minute. The paper adds that it has been decided that President as-Sadat will go from Camp David to Washington today, where he will stay for 3 days to meet with U.S. congressmen and disclose the facts to world public opinion.

AL-AKHBAR notes that President Carter is still making final efforts to save the conference, but it seems that these are desperate attempts. The paper explains that the basic differences at the conference concern the Israeli military presence in the West Bank, the status of Jerusalem and the continuing establishment of settlements.

The paper says that Dayan and Weizman interceded with President Carter and President as-Sadat in order to alleviate the effect of Begin's deliberate and insistent intransigence.

The paper reports that it is probable that another round of discussions will be held today, in which case President as-Sadat's departure for Washington will be delayed. However, the hope pinned on the success of the conference is now considered very slim, to the point of being almost nonexistent. The paper has learned that Menahem Begin has retreated from some viewpoints which he had previously approved, which has led the conference into an impasse.

Further Commentary

NC150825Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 15 Sep 78 NC

[Press review]

[Excerpts] The Cairo newspapers continue to discuss the Camp David conference, which is drawing to an end. The papers say that an announcement on the end of the conference is expected at any time. They also say that President as-Sadat may move today from Camp David to Washington for 3 days, during which he will meet with congressmen and reveal the facts to the world public. The papers say that President Carter is still trying to save the conference, and note in particular that there are basic differences on the Israeli military presence in the West Bank, the status of Jerusalem, and the continued existence of Israeli settlements.

Under the headline "A Big Job Is Awaiting Us," the newspaper AL-AKHBAR says: The Camp David conference is still at a delicate and critical state, as the official spokesman of the conference said at his press conference. The spokesman said that in view of this delicate and critical situation, we cannot predict that the conference will end in success or failure. The clear meaning of this is that the situation is still at the point of being nil.

AL-AKHBAR says: At any rate, whether the conference ends in success or failure or in agreement insuring the continuation of the negotiations for peace, there is a big job ahead of us which we must tackle with strength and with speed. We fully believe that Egypt has already considered this job and all the possibilities that the situation may produce.

If the Camp David conference ends in failure, there is an alternative plan to the conference that Egypt has considered. This plan requires quick action and movement. If the conference ends in agreement insuring the continuation of the peace negotiations, this will require us to exert great and continuous efforts. Quick action is necessary in this job.

The Camp David conference is not the ultimate aim in Egypt's estimation, but it is a means which the whole world hoped would be strong and good to achieve peace based on justice and right. But this conference is not the end of hope and work. The coming days will undoubtedly be days of work and efforts, and we must face them with vigilance and determination.

All we can assert at this point is that despite the difficulties and burdens which Egypt faces and shoulders, it will not deviate from its line and will not budge from a position it has committed itself to follow before the Arab nation and the world.

The Camp David conference will end tomorrow or after tomorrow, and it is not such a long time to wait. Whatever happens, Egypt knows its way today and tomorrow.

Musa Sabri Commentary

LD1417522 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 13 Sep 78 p 1 LD

[Musa Sabri report]

[Text] It is obvious that the progress made so far in the Camp David summit talks cannot be classified as a success--the basic differences are still unsolved. The points of difference lie in the fact that Begin is still far from the just solution on which Egypt insists--particularly with regard to the future of the West Bank and the rights of the Palestinian people.

If we measure the efforts being exerted by President Carter, we find that he has so far met with Begin a total of 13 hours, while he has met with President as-Sadat for no more than 4 hours. In essence, this means that Carter has been exerting pressure on Begin to change his stands, but such efforts have borne no fruit so far. As was announced earlier, Vice President Mondale was not supposed to take part in the talks. He had been assigned the responsibility of looking after presidential affairs during the conference. President Carter, however, summoned Mondale to Camp David three times in an effort to help him try to change Begin's attitude. President Carter did this because Mondale is one administration official known for his links with Israel, and it was apparently reasoned that Mondale might have some influence on Begin.

Therefore, I would repeat here what I have already said in my two previous dispatches, that the coming 2 days are decisive for the fate of the conference. Moreover, signs do not indicate that Carter will succeed in convincing Begin to change his mind--something which was expected before. It was for this reason that we have been demanding that President Carter take a bold decision to bring direct pressure on Begin so that the conference will reach real, positive results with regard to the cause of peace.

The Israeli tactic so far has been to use the conference merely as a "bridge" for the continuation of talks between Egypt and Israel--Egypt totally rejects this.

The question now is: Will Carter take such a decision even at the last moment of the conference? Or will he continue with the method of bridging views, which has obviously failed up to this day?

Those opposing Carter's policy inside the United States say that Carter has convened this conference in order to gain popularity with the American public. He is the first U.S. President to throw his weight behind direct negotiations which he is conducting personally in order to solve the Middle East crisis. It is enough for him that he has played this role and that he is not responsible if the two sides do not want to agree on a compromise solution.

If this is true, then it is a matter totally different from the commitments which Carter previously announced, especially in Aswan. It is also different from his undertaking to play the role of a full partner in the talks, a partner who also works for the protection of U.S. national interests in the Middle East.

Opponents of the Carter policy say that by calling a summit conference he has violated every known custom. Heads of states are supposed to come to a summit conference following prior contacts that would put them on common ground but with minor differences that a summit conference would iron out. But Carter called for the conference without any previous commitment on the points of agreement.

Those supporting Carter defend his convening of the conference, saying that it is the only solution after all the bridges of agreement between Egypt and Israel were destroyed. He therefore had to intervene personally in order to save the situation from totally collapsing. They also say that the differences of 30 years cannot be solved in a matter of days. Therefore, the fruits the conference is expected to yield are few, but at the same time they will prevent total despair. In other words, it is a salvage operation, and if the conference results in the continuation of talks, then this would be an achievement in itself.

In summary, we should not jump to conclusions and must wait for what the talks might bring about in the next 2 days. Who knows, maybe there will be an unexpected surprise, although the hope for this is almost nonexistent.

President as-Sadat is expected to stay 2 or 3 days in Washington after the conference is over in order to meet with members of the U.S. Congress. He is doing this in order to convey to them what happened at Camp David. Later the president is expected to leave for the capital of a friendly European state before returning to Cairo. This, however, has not yet been confirmed officially.

There remains a final remark. During the tour on which President Carter invited delegation members to visit the battleground of the decisive battle in the history of the United States, Begin tried in front of photographers to appear to be friendly with President as-Sadat and to start a conversation with him near an ancient gun. It was obvious from the attitude of the Egyptian delegation members in this tour that they were quite aware of this showmanship.

Cairo Radio Report

NC1420317 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 14 Sep 78 NC

[Washington dispatch by unidentified Cairo radio correspondent--recorded]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, greetings from Camp David: I report to you amid an atmosphere of pessimism, which intensified when the Israeli Embassy in Washington issued a statement denying yesterday's radio reports that Israel has agreed to withdraw from the West Bank.

This denial is considered by reporters as a strange phenomenon that has appeared for the first time since the conference started. The official spokesman for the Camp David conference has adopted a middle-of-the road stand in his statements to reporters. He has spoken in equal measure about progress and the continuation of difficulties on fundamental issues. His frequent negative answers and inability to answer or confirm questions put to him have been noticeable. The spokesman also used new expressions, such as the search for a framework for peace--an expression which denotes generalities. The spokesman also denied knowing when the conference would end, after it had been reiterated that the conference would end either tomorrow or the day after at the latest.

Observers were overtaken by disappointment when official Israeli sources denied reports on withdrawal from the West Bank. Observers regarded this Israeli statement, which is considered the first Israeli denial since the start of the conference, as an intransigence in the Israeli stand showing that Israel continues to revolve in a vicious circle. Consequently, it is considered here that the conference is again faced with the Israeli stand and that unless Israel comes up with something new, it will be sowing the seeds of the destruction of the conference.

However, the next 24 hours will reveal whether Israel really intends to undermine the conference by its stand or whether it will--in compliance with the wishes of the conference as stated by the official spokesman that more definite stands be adopted--frankly reveal its intentions.

Ladies and gentlemen, we believe that things will become completely clear in the next 2 days. Greetings from Camp David.

PRESIDENT AS-SADAT CONGRATULATES ETHIOPIAN LEADER

NC1314 10Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1330 GMT 13 Sep 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 13 September--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has sent the following congratulatory cable to the Ethiopian chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council, Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam, on the anniversary of the Ethiopian revolution:

On the occasion of the celebrations of the anniversary of the revolution I am happy to send you, on my behalf and on the behalf of the Egyptian people, the heartiest congratulations. I wish you the best of health and prosperity and I wish the fraternal Ethiopian people progress and glory.

On the occasion Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak also sent Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam a similar congratulatory cable.

MOROCCAN ENVOY ARRIVES WITH MESSAGE FOR AL-BAKR

JN141848Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1805 GMT 14 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 14 September--Abedlhadi Boutableb, adviser of Moroccan King Hassan II, arrived in Baghdad this evening.

In a statement upon arrival, Boutaleb said that he will convey a message to President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr from King Hassan II dealing with the consultations between Iraq and Morocco. He added that Iraq has always played a leading role in exerting efforts aimed at achieving the best results for the Arab and Islamic worlds.

The Moroccan envoy was received at the airport by Hamid 'Alwan, minister of state for foreign affairs.

TRADE MINISTER 'ALI LEAVES FOR HELSINKI

JN150817Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0720 GMT 15 Sep 78 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 15 September--Hasan 'Ali, Revolution Command Council member and trade minister, left Baghdad today for Helsinki at the head of a delegation to attend the meetings of the sixth session of the Iraqi-Finnish Joint Committee which will begin tomorrow. 'Ali said that these meetings are of special importance in light of the developing relations between the two countries and their agreement to raise the chairmanship of the committee to ministerial level.

The delegation includes representatives of the Ministries of Industry, Minerals, Foreign Affairs, Oil, Planning, Agriculture, Agrarian Reclamation and Trade as well as other establishments.

UAE RADIO OFFICIALS ARRIVE IN BAGHDAD FOR TALKS

JN141102Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0955 GMT 14 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 14 September--'Ali Jasim, director of the UAE radio in Umm al-Qaiwayn, and Hasan 'Abd al-Wahhab, general supervisor of radio programs, arrived here this morning on a visit of several days to Iraq at the invitation of the Ministry of Information. The delegation will discuss information cooperation and ways of exchanging radio programs and experiences between the two fraternal countries.

POLISH MINING DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR TALKS

JN141911Y Baghdad INA in English 1440 GMT 14 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 14 September--President of the Polish Mining Federation Mr. Janovski arrived here last night on a week-long visit to Iraq. While here, the Polish unionist will have talks with officials of the General Federation of Trade Unions covering means of developing relations between the two organizations as well as the agenda of the forthcoming conference of the International Mining Federation due to be held in Poland between 19 and 23 next November.

PAPERS CALL CAMP DAVID SUMMIT FAILURE

JN1410462 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 14 Sep 78 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] In their editorials the newspapers comment on the Camp David summit and on speculations by observers about the results of this summit.

Commenting on this issue, AL-AKHBAR links Arab solidarity with the results of the Camp David summit. The paper says: In their call for Arab solidarity and for rectifying the current disintegration in Arab relations, certain people proceed from the view that the Camp David summit will achieve nothing. Thus Arab stands must be reconsidered and the ranks must be closed in preparation for future eventualities. The paper further says: We believe that the Camp David summit must achieve something. However, this something may be more dangerous to the Arab stand than a clear declaration of the failure of the conference.

News agency reports yesterday stated that the United States submitted a new formula to bring views on future sovereignty over the West Bank closer and that Israel agreed with this formula. The Israeli stand was described as acceptable and Menahem Begin is said to have showed flexibility. According to the formula, neither side will insist on its stand on Jewish sovereignty over the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

To sum up, the results of the Camp David summit are well known to many people in advance, even to the most optimistic people. This is an incentive for us to face the results of the Camp David summit together, because the results will affect the destiny of all Arabs.

The newspaper AR-RA'Y comments on the issue from another point of view. The paper discusses the repeated call by the UN secretary general to convene a conference on the Arab-Israeli conflict with the participation of the parties concerned because time is not in favor of peace developments. Despite the fact that this call relieves the U.S. administration of the great responsibilities which it has shouldered in vain and despite the fact that it also relieves the Egyptian leadership from the impasse facing its initiative as a result of Israel's inflexible stand which has not responded to the requirements of peace put forth by the U.S. and Egyptian parties, Washington is trying to emerge with something from the tripartite summit that would help the resumption of direct bilateral negotiations between Egypt and Israel. The United States is trying to do this although it already knows that the resumption of direct negotiations will not lead to fruitful results for the cause of a just and lasting peace in the area.

Under the headline "In The Bazaar of Camp David," the newspaper AD-DUSTUR says: Reports describe the Camp David talks as being conducted in the same way as bargaining in an oriental bazaar. The reports say that the Camp David talks are still complicated and so filled with the exchange of proposals, counterproposals and documents that it is impossible to follow up on all these numerous details.

At the same time there are reports on the results of this bargaining although the bargainers have not agreed on these results. The substance of these results is that Begin is still insisting on retaining the settlements and airfields in the Sinai in addition to the settlements on the West Bank. If this is true, it means that events at the Camp David bazaar have not even approached the outlines of Security Council Resolution 242 and the General Assembly resolutions which denounce the havoc which Israel is wreaking against the West Bank population. These resolutions do not recognize the changes which Israel has made or is asking in Arab Jerusalem.

In conclusion the paper says that this constitutes a violation of Arab land and rights and his a harmful circumvention of the UN resolutions which call for complete Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territory and for recognition of the Palestinian people's right to determine their future on their land.

PAPERS WARN AGAINST CAMP DAVID FORMULAS

JN1510162 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 15 Sep 78 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] The newspapers AR-RA'Y and AD-DUSTUR comment on the Camp David summit. Under the headline "The Arabs and The Camp David Formula," AD-DUSTUR says: It can be said that so far there are insufficient indications from the conference to make us believe that the tripartite summit has made Israel respond to the international will and recognize Arab rights. The goal which the Arabs seek is not represented by the resumption of Egyptian-Israeli negotiations, but by Israel's relinquishment of intransigence and its recognition of Arab rights. So far there are no indications that this has been achieved after the 10 days of protracted talks at the Camp David retreat.

It is important for the Arabs not to deceive themselves and imagine that the mere issuance of a certain formula at Camp David means success for the conference. Naturally, no Arab side has the right to nurture this illusion, even though there are reports about a formula being prepared which is satisfactory to the Egyptian and Israeli sides. Needless to say, what the Arabs want is not elastic formulas that can be interpreted equivocally. The Arabs want a clear and frank Israeli commitment to implement all articles of Security Council Resolution 242.

AD-DUSTUR further says: We must urge caution now so that the issuance of any formula at Camp David will not prompt further differences and divisions in the Arab ranks, no matter whether this formula is positive or negative. The Arabs must prepare for a summit meeting after the Camp David summit to assess its results with complete objectivity and to draw up a strategy for the future.

Under the headline "Success and Failure Are Equal," AR-RA'Y says: Perhaps it makes no difference whether the tripartite summit succeeds or fails because the result in either case will not be in the interests of the Arabs. The tripartite summit talks have reached the point which His Majesty King Husayn talked about in his latest speech, that is, the search for a vague and indefinite formula.

The fact which the conferees at the tripartite summit tried to ignore is that the talks do not have the sound framework required by the Arabs and the world to establish a just and comprehensive peace in the area. Thus the Egyptian side in particular has no right to relinquish or bargain over the Palestine question before discussing and consulting with those directly involved in this question.

If the aim of the U.S. Administration is to resume the bilateral negotiations at any price, then we do not believe that this administration is fulfilling the commitments required of it toward the peace process in the area and toward the security and stability of the world community.

The big question now is: How many Arabs will accept an Israeli peace based on the nonrelinquishment of any of its basic stands, stands which are well known to everyone in the world?

VOICE OF ARAB SYRIA: KING PHONES AL-ASAD IN BONN

JN141054Y Voice of Arab Syria [Clandestine] in Arabic to Syria 0800 GMT 14 Sep 78 JN

[Text] It has been disclosed in London that King Husayn of Jordan has phoned Hafiz al-Asad, leader of the capitulationist clique, who is currently visiting Bonn. Sources close to King Husayn say that the telephone call concentrated on the Camp David meetings which are aimed at reaching a settlement with the racist Zionist entity.

U.S. President Carter and the president of the Egyptian regime, As-Sadat, earlier phoned King Husayn several times in London from Camp David where the summit, in which enemy Prime Minister Begin is participating, is being held.

It is not known whether Carter phoned Hafiz al-Asad.

SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL ARRIVES

JN141548Y Amman JNA in Arabic 1530 GMT 14 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Amman, 14 September--Deputy chief of the Near Eastern department in the Soviet Foreign Ministry (Vilaf) arrived in Amman this morning on a visit of several days to Jordan. During the visit, the Soviet official will hold talks with high-ranking Jordanian officials on developments in the Middle East situation.

FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS NEWSMEN AFTER CABINET SESSION

NC141340Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 14 Sep 78 NC

[Excerpts] Following the weekly cabinet session which ended at 1300 today, President Ilyas Sarkis met with the deputy prime minister and foreign and defense minister, Fu'ad Butrus.

At the end of the 30-minute meeting, Minister Butrus answered a number of questions.

Asked about the renewal of the Arab Deterrent Forces' mandate and whether Lebanon will ask for the convening of an Arab League extraordinary session on the subject, Minister Butrus said: Lebanon has nothing new to announce on this subject at present.

Asked about the date of his departure for New York, the foreign minister said that it has not been fixed yet.

CABINET DISCUSSES DISAPPEARANCE OF IMAM AS-SADR

NC141224Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 14 Sep 78 NC

[Text] President Sarkis chaired an extraordinary cabinet meeting this morning attended by Prime Minister al-Huss and the other ministers. The purpose of the meeting was to review developments in the disappearance of Imam as-Sadr and his two companions.

The meeting lasted until 1300. After the meeting Prime Minister al-Huss made the following statement:

At today's meeting, the cabinet discussed the question of the loss of contact with Imam as-Sadr--a matter which has stunned all Lebanese people. We have studied all the available information on the subject and have reviewed the measures which have been taken and which could be taken to reveal the circumstances of the case and which could lead to finding Imam as-Sadr's present location.

Al-Huss continued: The state, which is also experiencing the same pain felt by the citizens as a result of the case, will not spare any efforts to reach a positive result regarding it.

Asked whether the discussions had touched upon political subjects, Al-Huss said: The session was mainly devoted to the As-Sadar case. The discussions also touched upon other contingencies.

Asked whether there was any new information regarding the Imam's case, he said: We do not have anything to announce at present.

INTERPOL Asked To Help

NC141252Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 14 Sep 78 NC

[Text] The public prosecutor, Shaykh Camille Ja'ja', has asked INTERPOL to issue an international search warrant to all its departments in order to help in finding out the fate of Imam as-Sadar and his two companions. Ja'ja' has also asked INTERPOL to inform the Lebanese Government of its findings.

LONDON PAPER AFFIRMS SHI'ITE LEADER STILL IN LIBYA

LD1416322 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 14 Sep 78 pp 1, 2 LD

[Excerpt] Paris--Special ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT dispatch--the son of Imam Musa as-Sadr said in an interview with ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT yesterday that according to information available to him his father is still is Libya.

Sadr ad-Din as-Sadr, who is now staying in Paris in order to follow up on the case of his father's disappearance more than 10 days ago, said that despite the assurance by the Libyan authorities that the chairman of the Lebanese Higher Shi'ite Islamic Council had left Libyan territory, information available to him confirms that his father is still in Libya.

Sadr ad-Din as-Sadr, when asked about the reason that makes him so sure, declined to answer and only said: "We hope that my father is well."

We told the imam's son that according to an AFP dispatch from Rome, a passenger carrying travel papers in the name of Imam Musa as-Sadr arrived in Fumicino Airport in Rome from Tripoli on the night of 31 August on Alitalia Flight AZ-881, that he spent some time in the airport but did not enter Italy. Therefore, how could Imam Musa as-Sadr disappear and move from the transit lounge into another plane without the Italian authorities knowing where he went?

Sadr ad-Din as-Sadr told ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that Libyan authorities had not allowed his father to contact anybody since he entered Libya on 25 August. He said that since that time, the imam had not made any direct or indirect contact with members of his family. The imam's son considered this somewhat strange. He also disclosed that Ayatollah Khomeini, one of the major Iranian leaders opposing the shah, sent a message yesterday from Iraq inquiring about Imam as-Sadr and wondering what had happened to him. This, he said, is the best proof that his father had not entered Iraq and had not met Khomeini, as some stories have said.

Imam as-Sadr's son, sounding disturbed, affirmed that his father was not planning to go to Algeria but to Paris. He said that a senior Algerian official visited Libya 2 days ago to meet with Libyan officials and seek clarification of this case. He also said that two envoys sent by his family applied to go to Libya but the Libyan Embassy in Algiers denied their request.

AFP: CHRISTIAN ARTILLERY HITS LEBANESE ARMY UNIT

TA1413552 Paris AFP in English 1255 GMT 14 Sep 78 TA

[Text] Beirut, Sept 14 (AFP)--Christian artillery gunners today pounded a detachment of the regular Lebanese Army that has been blocked in southern Lebanon since late July. Front line reports said the dawn shelling took place near Kawkaba, 40 kms (25 miles) short of the detachment's destination near the Israeli border. No casualties were reported.

Conservative Christian militiamen have been holding up the contingent since July 31, refusing to let it cross the Christian enclave of Marj 'Uyun.

Correspondents in the area said the conservative militiamen had also clashed overnight with forces of the Palestinian-Lebanese leftist alliance.

DAMASCUS REPORTS AL-ASAD'S PRESS CONFERENCE IN BONN 14 SEP

JN1421O6Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 14 Sep 78 JN

[President Hafiz al-Asad's press conference at Gymnich Castle in Bonn on 14 September--read by announcer]

[Text] His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad met at 0930 today in the conference hall at Gymnich Castle with the representatives of the FRG press, radio and television and correspondents of foreign news agencies in the FRG capital. The meeting was attended by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad.

At the outset of the meeting, his excellency the president welcomed the journalists and said: I am happy to meet with the information media in this country at the end of our visit, during which we met with FRG officials. We met with President Scheel, Chancellor Schmidt and Mr Genscher, vice chancellor and minister of foreign affairs. I also met with FRG party leaders and the representatives of public sectors in this country. At these meetings, we discussed issues of common interest, particularly the Middle East issue.

We sensed these officials' desire for the establishment of peace in the Middle East. This corresponds to our wishes and aspirations for achieving peace. We are satisfied with this stand which supports the issue of just peace in the Middle East. Naturally, we also discussed the strengthening of industrial cooperation in the interests of the two countries.

His excellency the president said: I do not want to take up time. I would like to give the journalists the chance to ask the questions they want. Following is the text of the questions and answers:

Question: Mr President, how can the Europeans contribute to the consolidation of peace in Lebanon and thereby bring about factors which will allow the withdrawal of the Arab Deterrent Forces from Lebanon?

Answer: By advising, if possible, certain militias--which are trying to commit acts of aggression against the authority of the state, represented by the deterrent forces--to return to the life of security and stability and to leave affairs of state to the state so it can exercise its authority in freedom in the interests of all the Lebanese people. Or they can advise them and some of their leaders not to place themselves at the service of the Israeli designs in Lebanon and the Arab homeland. They can also advise them on the need to always remember the chivalrous and unselfish stand adopted by Syria for their sake and for the sake of the Lebanese. They should also advise them to be wary of the possible danger which might ensue as a result of a decision which Syria might take to withdraw its forces from Lebanon.

Question: Mr President, do you think it is possible to achieve peace in Lebanon without achieving peace in the Middle East area?

Answer: Most definitely. I do not see any need to associate the two. Peace in Lebanon should be an internal Arab Lebanese issue. It is clear that security was established about 2 years ago after the Syrian forces entered Lebanon. However, Israel has recently been able to prey on certain militia leaders and encourage them every now and then to attack the deterrent forces in Beirut.

(?The people) in Lebanon do not link the establishment of peace in Lebanon with the establishment of peace in the Arab area. The nationalist parties in Lebanon do not do so either, neither do the nationalist personalities in Lebanon. The Christians do not make a connection between the establishment of security in Lebanon and the establishment of security in the area. Those who make this connection are only some leaders of militias in Beirut.

I would like to stress that it is important for the German information media to be anxious to convey the true picture of the situation in Lebanon to the German people and to Europe in general. It seems to me that importnat matters or conferences, positions or statements which are being made or adopted there are not being conveyed to the masses of the German peoples or Europe.

For instance, the stand of the Greek Orthodox community in Lebanon is not known. This stand is epitomized in the position expressed by Greek Orthodox Patriarch Ilyas IV in several statements broadcast and published in our area. These statements, as far as we know, are not known. The stand and statements of the Roman Catholic Patriarch are also not known, although he is a well-known religious leader and represents the Catholics in Lebanon and the area. He is Patriarch Maximos Hakim. Even the statements which he made about 2 days ago in Paris were most probably not published or conveyed to the German people.

The stand ard statements of President Sulayman Franjiyah have not been conveyed to the German people. He is the president who confronted problems and led the Lebanese front, and more specifically the Christian front, all during the civil war. This was not conveyed to the German people because the son--a former minister and deputy--of this former Lebanese president and leader of the Lebanese front of the Christian persuasion was killed because he asked the militias not to try to blow up the situation in Beirut and to abandon their practices in the interests of the Lebanese state.

President Sulyman Franjiyah is not only a former Lebanese president, but he also comes from a large Christian family with a traditionally influential role in Lebanon. He is the oldest Christian leader in Lebanon, particularly among the northern Lebanese Christians.

The statements and stands of certain Christian leaders and personalities as well as the stands of the other Lebanese parties have not been conveyed to the German people. All these--Moslems, Christians, parties and personalities--should shoulder the responsibility of condemning and denouncing these attempts which are being carried out by certain armed groups in Beirut. It must be made clear that Syria is not a party to the conflict in Lebanon. We entered Lebanon due to persistant and repeated appeals for the sake of protecting the children, women and men, for which we have suffered a lot.

You know how severely we were attacked when we entered Lebanon. You also know that we entered Lebanon in response to appeals and requests by the legitimate authority in Lebanon. We suffered a lot, but we did not hesitate because of the brotherhood and humanitarian feelings for those who were slaughtering themselves. We tried and are still trying to achieve the goal for which we entered Lebanon; namely, to definitively halt the fighting and to spread the supremacy of the state over Lebanese territory. We must be aware of the objective interests as well as of the interest of security and peace. Information must be conveyed to everybody in full. This dictates that we must be aware that Israel is trying to depict Syria as a party to the Lebanese events.

Question: Mr president, the Camp David conference has not ended, but we would like to know your assessment of the situation in the Middle East.

Answer: Regarding the situation, we work to achieve peace in our area. We will continue to work for the sake of this peace regardless of the obstacles because peace is a great goal which deserves every effort. We should not despair regardless of the size of the obstacles on the road.

While moving along the road of peace, we must not be lost at any stage. Only a just solution can achieve peace and a just solution is one characterized by comprehensiveness. The process of achieving peace depends on a just and comprehensive solution. Justice and comprehensiveness are two inseparable objectives for any solution that might achieve peace. These two objectives can only be achieved in accordance with the UN resolutions which deal with the solution of the Middle East problem and define the broad guidelines for the procedures of the solution, including the formal ones.

A just solution must lead to Israel's withdrawal from all the territories it occupied in 1967 and to the recognition of the national rights of the Palestinian people. Here I would like to allude to the stand of the FRG and the European group, which understand our just cause based on the withdrawal from the occupied territories and on the just solution of the Palestinian people's cause. This was confirmed by the EEC statements in 1973 and 1977 in London.

You can see now that those who are dealing and negotiating are not embodying the comprehensiveness of the solution. It is, therefore, difficult to pin hope on the current negotiations and contacts. You are aware of resolution No 338 which halted the war. This resolution is made up of three provisions. They are: 1) It provides for the cease-fire; 2) it provides for implementing Resolution 242; and 3) it provides for holding a peace conference under UN aegis and under the chairmanship of the two superpowers.

It was agreed to convene this conference in Geneva with all combatant sides attending. After 1973, we said that this conference must be attended by representatives of other international bodies, particularly the representatives of the European group, in order to make this conference play a bigger role in the process of achieving peace.

Question: The EEC foreign ministers will meet during the next 2 weeks. What do you visualize these foreign ministers might do in addition to these statements [words indistinct] concerning the solution to the Middle East conflict, particularly since the Middle East issue is included on the agenda of these foreign ministers?

Answer: It is not suitable to place myself in the position of speculating what the EEC foreign ministers should do. What I can say is that the EEC can play a basic and effective role in achieving peace in the Middle East. They, I mean the EEC officials, are capable of realizing the ways and methods that must be used to contribute to the achievement of peace in the area. If I say otherwise, I might be accused by the journalists in Europe of having intervened in the domestic affairs of the European countries. I do not want to wage an unjustified battle.

Question: Regardless of the outcome of the Camp David meetings, according to my information, Saudi Arabia is working to achieve interests among the Arab countries. I know that Syria supports the convocation of a conference for the countries opposing the Camp David summit. Which conference must be given priority, and do you believe in the possibility of holding one after the other?

Answer: There is no reason for us to compare the two conferences from the point of view of priority. Each conference has its causes and justifications which do not contradict those of the other from the practical and official viewpoints.

There is no call now for convening a comprehensive Arab summit conference. There are contacts regarding the possibility of convening a summit conference of the Steadfastness Front. Such a conference is within the framework of the Algiers and Tripoli agreements which stipulate the holding of a conference every now and then to discuss any issue which might arise and to improve the methods of work. Such a conference will not be held especially for the issue of the Camp David conference. The suggestion to hold such a conference came before the announcement about Camp David. Naturally, when this conference is held, the Camp David issue will be among the main issues to be discussed.

On the process of reconciliation--if that is the proper word to use--among the Arab states, efforts have been exerted by more than one Arab state during the recent past as is well known. We in Syria welcome this and always work for our solidarity as Arabs. This solidarity will enable us to benefit more from the capabilities of our friends in our search to achieve peace. We will also be able to effectively cooperate with the world in order to realize peace in our region. However, any reconciliation process must be based on grounds which will enable us to move collectively.

Question: Am I to understand, Mr President, that you will take part in such a conference? Are you prepared in principle to take part in such a comprehensive Arab conference?

Answer: Yes. If the conference is convened in accordance with principles agreed upon. These principles would entrench the basis for peace and for the work to reject surrender and capitulation.

Question: Are you prepared, Mr President, to meet with President Anwar as-Sadat after the Camp David conference in order to gain firsthand knowledge of what happened during the conference.

Answer: This matter has not been proposed by either one of us. Therefore, it is not necessary or important to discuss an issue which has not been proposed. Furthermore, the Camp David conference results can be known without the need for bilateral meetings.

Question: Concerning your statements, are you suggesting that the European group should take part in the Geneva peace conference?

Answer: Yes. Most of the European officials who have been in contact with us since 1973 know this opinion of ours.

Question: Concerning your talks with FRG officials on issues of concern to you and on problems broached at the talks, have you found any change, whether positive or negative, on such problems or have the stands you saw been reaffirmations of the stands taken all along?

Answer: As I have said, the stands have been those taken by the European states as expressed in the London declaration of 1977 or the 1973 declaration, which have also been repeated through statements by the officials. The recent statement by Chancellor Schmidt is well known to us all. Our meetings have been useful in deepening this understanding and this stand and to make clear our viewpoints in creating more opportunities to work for the achievement of our practical objectives for peace. You have heard what President Scheel said: We have all benefited from these meetings.

Question: You will visit the GDR shortly. What is the date of the visit and do you expect further support there for your cause?

Answer: The date is the beginning of next month. Naturally we expect further support for our stand and cause of peace. I do not think there is a state in Europe which is not concerned with the issue of peace in the Middle East.

Question: You will agree, Mr President, that the Palestinian question is a basic issue in the Middle East dispute. What will be the form in which the Palestinians themselves will directly take part in determining their own future and fate, and when will that be?

Answer: Since the Palestinian problem is the basic issue in the Middle East dispute, the real representatives of the Palestinian people must play their role in solving this problem. Is it reasonable to achieve peace with somebody if he does not take part in this peace? Concerning us, the Arabs, there has been a unanimous resolution from us that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. This resolution was taken at the Rabat summit conference in 1974 and none of the Arab kings or presidents or representatives voiced an objection to this resolution. As you see, all the Arabs adhere to the Rabat summit resolutions.

At the conclusion of the press conference, President Hafiz al-Asad said to the journalists:

Thank you very much, and I must point out that your task is great and noble. The battle of the truth about an issue and the means to deliver the truth to the people about it is the most important factor leading to a just solution and a happy end to such an issue. Thank you.

DAMASCUS RADIO REPORTS IRAQI POLITICAL DECISIONS

JN1414292 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 14 Sep 78 JN

[Text] As part of the bloody terrorist decisions issued by the so-called Tikriti tribal revolution command council, a decision was issued on 3 July 1978 providing for the execution of any military or policeman, whether retired, discharged, or who have ended their term of service for any reason, if it is proved he joined or works for any party or other political side. This decision includes former general intelligence staffers. In accordance with this decision, all the fraternal Iraqi people will be included in these decisions. Other similar decisions issued in the past have included students, workers, peasants, writers and craftsmen.

Reports from Iraq have stated that the suspicious facist regime has formed a committee headed by Tayih 'Abd al-Karim to prepare a list of employees opposed to the rightwing regime in order to terminate their employment. Upon recommendations from the above-mentioned committee, the so-called revolution command council issued decision No 685 on 22 May 1978 firing 120 employees. It is expected that scores of similar decisions will be issued in the near future.

LIBYA

FOREIGN SECRETARIAT ANNOUNCES BOYCOTT OF ARAB LEAGUE SESSION

LD141706Y Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 14 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Commenting on the convening of the 70th session of the Arab League Council, an official source of the Foreign Secretariat has stated that the convening of this session in the Egyptian capital does not reflect the views of the majority of the member states of the league. The source explained that the Arab League General Secretariat had advised the member states that fraternal Sudan was prepared to host this session in Khartoum to insure Arab unanimity. This initiative received a good response in the Arab homeland and the General Secretariat in fact started receiving replies from Arab League member states agreeing to attend meetings of this session in Khartoum on 12 September. The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah was among the countries that informed the General Secretariat of its approval. Moreover, the countries of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front adopted similar stands.

While contacts were being made within the framework of making preparations for the session in Khartoum, the Arab League General Secretariat surprised us by announcing the convening of the session in the Egyptian capital, thus disregarding the initiative of fraternal Sudan. Thus, the Arab League General Secretariat adopted this stand before obtaining the replies of all of the members, which is contrary to normal procedures in the League and other international organizations. Moreover, it reflects an open response to pressures from certain parties, particularly since the replies which the General Secretariat had officially received had indicated approval of the Khartoum meeting.

The General Secretariat's behavior in this fashion has created a grave precedent for future united Arab action within the framework of the Arab League Charter. Moreover, disregarding the views of the majority means that the current session of the Arab League Council in the Egyptian capital will lack the basic factors for the success of any joint Arab action.

While expressing its (?concern) for united Arab actions to serve the causes of the Arab nation and to confront the plans aimed at liquidating the Palestinian question, the Jamahiriyah reaffirms its adherence to the resolutions of the two summit conferences of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front in Tripoli and Algiers. These include the boycotting of meetings of the Arab League held in the Egyptian capital.

SYRIAN FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICIAL ARRIVES FOR VISIT

LD142104Y Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 2015 GMT 14 Sep 78 LD

[Text] 'Abd al-Karim Adi, Syrian minister of state for foreign affairs, arrived in Tripoli this afternoon for a visit to the Jamahiriyah. He was met at the airport by the foreign undersecretary and a protocol official.

AT-TURAYKI MEETS WITH FIDEL CASTRO IN ADDIS ABABA

LD131538Y Tripoli JANA in English 1443 GMT 13 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, September 13, JANA--Fidel Castro, the president of the Cuban Republic, received yesterday evening in Addis Ababa Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, foreign secretary, who is attending the celebrations of the Ethiopian people of their national day.

Dr Castro conveyed to the foreign secretary his greetings and regards to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, secretary general of the General People's Congress, and the regards of the Cuban people to the struggle waged by the people of the Jamahiriyah against imperialism and its agents.

The Cuban president expressed to the foreign secretary his best wishes for the Libyan Arab people and his appreciation of the tremendous efforts made by the peoples of the Jamahiriyah in their struggle for development and progress.

MAURITANIA

USSR FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL LEAVES NOUAKCHOTT

LD142312Y Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 14 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Mr Aleksey Shevdov, director of the First African Department at the Soviet Foreign Ministry, left Nouakchott this evening. The Soviet official arrived in our country the day before yesterday to hold talks with Mauritanian officials.

During his brief visit he was received by Lt Col Moustapha Ould Sidi Saleck [name as heard], chairman of the Military Committee for National Recovery and head of government. He was also received by a number of Mauritanian officials, including [words indistinct].

Before leaving the airport Shevdov told the radio correspondent that his contacts with the Mauritanian officials had (?covered) relations between the Soviet Union and Mauritania. He said that these relations will experience a fresh impulse as a result of his visit to Mauritania.

SUDAN

LIBYA'S AT-TURAYKI INTERVIEWED AT KHARTOUM AIRPORT

Speaks on Cooperation

LD141720Y Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 14 Sep 78 LD/EA

[Text] Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, foreign secretary of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, has reaffirmed that relations between Sudan and the Jamahiriyah are developing and returning to normal. This was confirmed at the 15th African summit conference in Khartoum.

He said the meeting of officials of the two countries is not (?in the interest) of the two brotherly peoples alone but concerns the entire Arab nation. In an interview with the SUDAN NEWS AGENCY on his arrival at Khartoum airport at noon yesterday, Dr at-Turayki said close cooperation between the two countries will help solve many problems. He pointed out the spheres of cooperation between Sudan and the Jamahiriyah and said the two countries' economies are complementary and that Sudan's (?immense) agricultural potential can be exploited for the benefit of the two peoples and the Arab nation. Real development in Sudan will benefit the entire Arab nation.

Dr at-Turayki stressed the Jamahiriyah's readiness to cooperate with President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, chairman of the OAU, in solving many problems in the African Continent. This readiness arises from the Jamahiriyah's policy of backing Africa and striving to keep it free of international conflicts and foreign interference.

In his interview [word indistinct], he dealt with the situation in the Horn of Africa, and said: the Jamahiriyah has always sought solutions to African problems by peaceful means. He stressed that the Jamahiriyah is in constant contact with the quarters concerned in the Horn of Africa, pointing out in this respect the visit of Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre to the Jamahiriyah. He expressed his hope that problems in the Horn of Africa will be solved (?through current) contacts.

The Libyan secretary referred to the Middle East problem and said that there is no solution to it except within the framework of a pan-Arab policy based on the complete liberation of Palestine. A racist regime based on racism and exploitation cannot be homogeneous with a (?completely different) civilization. He added that the Zionist racist regime, which is no different from the racist regimes in Zimbabwe and South Africa, cannot agree to the liberation of the occupied Arab land and (?the liberation) of Palestine, and that it represents a danger to the Arab nation and there is no solution [words indistinct].

On the conference of the (?Steadfastness Front) due to be held in Damascus this month, he said: The Steadfastness Front (?holds regular) meetings and the forthcoming meeting will be held in difficult (?and delicate) circumstances.

2-Day Visit Ends

JN150904Y Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 0850 GMT 15 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 15 September--Libyan Foreign Secretary Dr 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam at-Turayki left Khartoum this morning following a 2-day visit to Sudan during which he conveyed a message to President Numayri from Libyan leader Al-Qadhdhafi. He also met with First Vice President Abu al-Qasim Muhammad Ibrahim and Vice President and Foreign Minister ar-Rashid at-Tahir Bakr, with whom he held talks on bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest on the Arab, African and international levels.

He was seen off at the airport by Ar-Rashid at-Tahir Bakr and by several Political Bureau members and ministers.

WESTERN SAHARA

SDAR DEFENSE MINISTRY CITES DOWNING OF MOROCCAN F-5

LD131835Y Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 13 Sep 78 LD

[Text] The military struggle by the Saharan people against the invading Moroccan Royal Forces continues to escalate on various fronts, inflicting on them every day more and more losses in men and materiel. The Saharan Democratic Arab Republic Defense Ministry today issued a communique giving details of the result of recent operations carried out by the Saharans.

The communique said that on 10 September a royal unit was attacked by the Saharans in the Smara region. Heavy losses were inflicted on the royal forces. The Moroccan Air Force intervened, but the Saharan fighters shot down one F-5. Its pilot, a captain, was captured.

The communique adds that 3 days earlier the royal forces were attacked on the Saharan-Moroccan border killing 14 soldiers, destroying several military vehicles and capturing three other vehicles and ammunition.

PRIME MINISTER'S ADVISER REPORTS ON CAMP DAVID

TA141959Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 14 Sep 78 TA

[Text] Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan will apparently not return to Israel tomorrow from the summit deliberations at Camp David. This was told this evening by telephone by the prime minister's adviser, Dan Pattir, to political correspondent Elimelekh Ram. The prime minister's adviser emphasized that there was progress in the deliberations, but they had not yet overcome all the difficulties. It was assumed, Pattir said, that the conference deliberations could be ended by tomorrow, but the possibility was not to be discounted that the conference would not come to an end tomorrow and would need more time.

The prime minister's adviser described UPI correspondent Jim Anderson's report that there was Israeli willingness for a withdrawal from Judaea and Samaria as completely incorrect. Mr Pattir told our correspondent that there was still a possibility of a tripartite meeting between President Carter, the prime minister and the president of Egypt, and added that not all the contacts held to date had been publicized.

SITUATION IN SOUTHERN LEBANON EVALUATED, DISCUSSED

Military Elements Concerned

TA142004Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 14 Sep 78 TA

[Text] Our military correspondent reports that the exchanges of fire which have continued for 3 days between the terrorists in the area of An-Nabatiyah and the militias in the Christian enclave north of Metulla are worrying military elements in Israel. These elements think that there is an aim on the part of the terrorists to heat up the sector just before the renewal of the UNIFIL mandate on the assumption that, during this period, Israel will try to avoid a conflagration in the area and will restrain the Christian militias.

Militia Leader Reports

TA150718Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 15 Sep 78 TA

[From the Morning Newsreel]

[Excerpts] Lebanon--The commanders of the militia in southern Lebanon claim that the terrorists, most of them members of As-Sa'iqah, are deploying, with the aid of Syrian troops, for a lightning strike against the Christian enclaves on the eve of the renewal of the UNIFIL mandate. According to them, thousands of terrorists armed with artillery and covered by Syrian troops have been concentrating north of the enclave over the past 2 weeks. This was revealed by a commander of the militias in the region, (Nasib Hamra), to our correspondent in the north, Yehezqel Hame'iri.

[Hame'iri] This commander of the militias claims that nearly 9,000 terrorists are spread along the sector between Hasbayya in the east and An-Nabatiyah in the west. Most of the terrorists belong to the pro-Syrian As-Sa'iqah organization. There are among them, according to the commander of the militias, regular Syrian soldiers in the Ar-Rayhan region, which is in the central area about 17 km from the enclave line. These soldiers are well armed with heavy artillery of 130 mm and larger.

The sector in which the force is increasingly concentrating is, according to (Nasib Hamra), in the area parallel to the enclave territory; an area in the shape of a semi-circle beyond the Litani of from 4 to 17 km from the enclave line. Most of the terrorists are concentrated in An-Nabatiyah. This commander of the militias claims that there are also regular Syrian troops in Ar-Rayhan. We have reliable reports of missiles being towed by trucks to the area over the last few days and it may be that the terrorists have missiles, this commander of the militias claims.

The militia commander has no doubt that the terrorists, with the aid of the Syrians, are deploying for a lightning strike with the aim of breaking through into the enclave.

The militia commanders therefore expect a hard and fateful campaign, which they describe as the decisive stage before winter comes. This militia commander believes in the ability of his people and of the Phalangist fighters to stand firm; of course, with the aid, even if indirect, of Israel. He says: We will continue to stand firm to the last man. It is inconceivable that we will retreat from our lines in any way.

Francis Rizq Interviewed

TA141812Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 14 Sep 78 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Text] There has been a worsening in the situation in southern Lebanon following the exchanges of artillery fire between the terrorists and the militia forces and the Phalangists. Exchanges of fire last night were among the most aggressive of the last few days, and in Marj 'Uyun and Al-Qulay'ah several houses took direct hits. Our correspondent in the north, Yehezqel Hame'iri, discussed the worsening of the situation in southern Lebanon with the spokesman of the militia forces and the Phalangists, Francis Rizq. [begin recording]

[Question] Mr Rizq, what is the situation in the south today? Why, in your view, has the artillery fire been resumed?

[Answer] Now the situation is more difficult. Why? Because the firing is more intense. This is a sign that the Syrians have provided these arms and these bullets.

[Question] Have you gone back to living in the shelters?

[Answer] Of course. There is no alternative. The children sleep in the shelters. If they hear one shell they go straight to the shelters. Thank the Lord that we now have shelters. We also have soldiers who are prepared to fight. They have the will to fight and this gives us a little confidence. But, you know, this is not enough in order to fight against an organized army such as the Syrian Army.

[Question] Do you think there is any connection between the latest developments in southern Lebanon, particularly the exchanges of artillery fire, and the Camp David conference?

[Answer] Of course. The Syrians promised Russia they would oppose the talks. They promised that they would also destroy the talks in Camp David. Syria does not want peace, it does not believe in peace.

[Question] How do you regard the renewal of the mandate of the UN emergency force in southern Lebanon?

[Answer] They say that they want to finish the last step in Lebanon, in southern Lebanon. The last step, in my opinion, is to close the good fence between us and Israel.

[Question] Nevertheless, you gave the United Nations several observation posts in your territory. Does this mean a settlement with, or a surrender to, the UN personnel?

[Answer] The citizens do not want this agreement. I think that Haddad and Major Shidyaq agreed to this, but, you know, now the United Nations does not want only this. They do not want such an agreement. They want to close the fence and we do not agree.

[Question] How will you oppose them? What will you do?

[Answer] What will I do? You know, this is a question of life or death. To close the fence--that is the end of us. [end recording]

YEDI'OT AHARONOT Comments

TA1409Z9Y Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 14 Sep 78 p 9 TA

[Text] Contrary to guesses and forecasts, the Syrian forces have not taken advantage of the period of the Camp David summit to launch an all-out offensive on the Christian forces in northern Lebanon. As usual, the Syrians have acted wisely. While all the world is following the events taking place at the marine camp in the Maryland woods, they continue to slice off little bits of Lebanon, which is washing in its own blood.

However, even though local world attention is focusing on the talks and on the entertainment in Camp David one could not overlook what is happening in Lebanon this week. The Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee devoted this week's sessions to this issue.

We have read that there was a vigorous discussion in the Knesset committee on whether to use the IDF against the Syrian forces in northern Lebanon and against the terrorists who are slowly but surely deploying in southern Lebanon.

This week's overall picture is not encouraging and to a certain extent the sting has been removed from the arguments of those who object to an Israeli intervention in Lebanon. Developments have been faster than predicted, and in the last few days the situation has become markedly more serious, and not only from the Christian point of view. According to sources in Beirut, the Syrian forces have enlarged their power and their deployment, have sent in reinforcements, set up antiaircraft batteries and, as far as is known, carried out preparations which might show that an all-out offensive is being prepared, at the end of which Lebanon would surely become an inseparable part of Syria. The dream of "greater Syria" is putting on flesh and bones, perhaps sooner than Israel had estimated.

So far, the notion that a military action should not be undertaken in Lebanon prevails in Israel, and certainly not for humanitarian reasons. Israel has nothing to be ashamed of with respect to all it has done for the Christian forces, both in the north and south. According to reports, Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Zippori has said that Israel has given the Christians 2 billion Israeli pounds' worth of aid. This is most substantial, far more than the Christians could have hoped for and expected to receive from Israel.

Even today the majority in the government--and apparently also in the Knesset--are against any military action in Lebanon. [paragraph continues]

However, if the Syrians continue to act as they do--and all signs indicate that they will indeed do so--it will be necessary to reassess the need to pull the trigger instead of locking away the rifles. The Syrians have geographically and physically been biting off the Christians' territory and forces.

For the moment, Israel's problem is determining the place and time where it would have to announce to the whole world:

"No further," that is, a kind of 1978-style "red line." The Syrian activity makes this difficult, because their activity is well calculated, slow and relatively small in scope. The crawling annexation and the quiet military preparations are creating a situation in which it will be very difficult for Israel to explain to the world why it has gone out to fight: Because of one village? Because of 60 dead Christians? The Syrians can continue to maintain the "step-by-step" policy without igniting a war in Lebanon. If they continue this way, Israel will have to sit down and decide that the cumulative Syrian and PLO activity of this kind or another creates a security threat to Israel and that it is therefore going out to battle with all its might.

At this stage it seems that such crucial decisions are not yet necessary. However, the chief of staff, appearing this week before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, pointed out the lurking dangers from the north. It transpired from his words that the Syrians are preparing for battle and that it is necessary to reassess previous decisions concerning Israeli activity in Lebanon.

In any case, one must drop the use of the description, "a low probability" regarding the possibility of the breakout of battles in the north.

BEGIN'S ARAB AFFAIRS ADVISER CRITICIZES GOVERNMENT

TA1141649Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 14 Sep 78 TA

[From the Afternoon Newsreel]

[Text] The prime minister's adviser for Arab affairs, Dr Moshe Sharon, proposes that the adviser's office be abolished and replaced by a statutory authority to coordinate activities in the Arab sector. Dr Sharon proposes that the government appoint a minister in charge of these affairs. Dr Sharon submitted to the government a comprehensive plan for the solution of the problem of the Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el, the first plan to be submitted since the establishment of the state. Dr Sharon spoke during a tour by the members of the presidium of the Zionist Executive of new settlements in the Galilee. Correspondent Asher Fisch accompanied them and reports from Ma'alot by telephone:

The members of the presidium of the Zionist Executive saw today the implementation of the settlement plans of the Jewish Agency in the Galilee. They realized that covert competition over settling the Galilee exists between the Arabs and the Jews. Dr Mosh Sharon, the prime minister's adviser for Arab affairs, says that the illegal building in the Arab sector and seizure of state lands are a blunder by the Israeli Government. Dr Sharon says that to date no site plan exists for Arab settlements throughout the country and there have never been housing plans for Arabs. Several facts presented by Dr Sharon: The natural increase of the Israeli Arabs is 4 percent annually, the highest rate in the world. The Israeli Government every year subsidizes development and welfare budgets for the Israeli Arabs by 0.5 billion Israeli pounds.

There are three large Arab concentrations in the country: in the Galilee, in the area of the Triangle and in the Negev.

Dr Sharon submitted to the government a comprehensive plan for the solution of the problem of the Israeli Arabs. The plan consists of 13 clauses pertaining to various spheres from education to industrialization and employment. In his plan Dr Sharon proposes beginning large-scale Jewish urban settlement in various places in the country which he refuses to detail. Among the solutions for construction in the Arab sector included in Dr Sharon's plan, he suggests that high-rise apartment buildings be built in the Arab villages. Why should Jews live in apartment buildings while Arabs live only in low houses? However, the first thing he suggests is to abolish the office of the prime minister's adviser for Arab affairs and to set up instead a statutory authority to coordinate all activities in the Arab sector in the country. Dr Sharon suggests that a cabinet minister responsible for this matter be appointed.

Further on this matter: The head of the Settlement Department, Prof Ra'anan Weitz, sent Prime Minister Begin a letter describing the grave status of the plans for making the Galilee Jewish. The prime minister answered Weitz with a letter saying that immediately upon his return from Camp David he will consult with all the ministers concerned, will raise the problem and try to introduce order into the actions of the government and the Jewish Agency in the Galilee so that a single clear-cut plan for making the Galilee Jewish may be consolidated.

SHAY FOUNDING COUNCIL MEETS, 'AMIT COMMENTS

TA141917Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 14 Sep 78 TA

[Text] The founding council of the new movement of SHAY set up by the 'Amit and the Shinui groups convened for the first time this evening. The retiring minister, Me'ir 'Amit, said that the government is not succeeding in correcting the things which still require amendment. He expressed the hope that this government will have the strength to grant concessions to the other side but many doubts have been aroused on this matter. He also could not bear witness to the existence of a desire in the government to create an atmosphere of credibility and to bridge the credibility gap over the settlements and the towers in the Sinai.

Me'ir 'Amit said that he was troubled by the way the government functions. He said that the prime minister hardly pays attention to domestic matters and social and economic affairs, and that the conduct of government affairs is characterized by overcentralization.

MK Amnon Rubinstein said that the new party should prove that it is united and that it does not have any separate groups based on personal loyalties.

SHAY Composition Determined

TA142016Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 14 Sep 78 TA

[Excerpt] The founding council of the new party of SHAY, established by the Shinui and 'Amit groups, elected Dr Uri'el Reichman as the head of the presidium of the council. It was also decided that the council will consist of 120 members, 65 of whom were members of the DMC council before its dissolution. The movement's secretariat will be chosen within 10 days.

IDF, POLICE DIVIDE ANTITERRORISM RESPONSIBILITY

TA150730Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 15 Sep 78 TA

[Text] Internal security will continue to be in the hands of the police, whereas naval activity and protecting the coasts will be the responsibility of the IDF. During emergencies and grave incidents the IDF will take over general supervision of all activity. This is the recommendation of the ministerial committee appointed after the terrorist attack on the coastal road. The committee examined the division of responsibilities among the defense organizations. The committee further recommends giving commanders the authority to declare a state of emergency in the wake of a terrorist strike and to take into their own hands the responsibility for supervising activities.

Military correspondent Roni Dani'el points out that since the coastal road attack the IDF has increased its activity along the coasts and the police have submitted a request for a supplemental budget to enable them to deploy better to guard internal security.

HUNGARIAN CP DELEGATION ARRIVES ON VISIT

TA150745Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 15 Sep 78 TA

[Text] A high-level Hungarian Communist Party delegation has come to Israel for a 10-day visit as the guest of RAKAH. There are four people in the delegation headed by (Nagy Gabor), the deputy head of the Department for Foreign Relations of the Party Central Committee.

The delegation has come to hold political talks with members of RAKAH and with public figures. This is the first visit by an official Hungarian delegation for this purpose. To date Soviet bloc countries have sent delegations to Israel only to mark the RAKAH congresses.

PERES WARNS AGAINST COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF MIDEAST

TA151011Y Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 15 Sep 78 p 3 TA

[Text] "The people of the Middle East face the choice of either losing their independence or making an effort to cooperate. The thing that disturbs us is the infiltration of communism into the region. Events in Iran hint at the dangers that can be expected if communism gets a hold over the people of the region. As-Sadat also fears this and Arab countries are aware today of the danger of communism threatening the independence of the countries in the region and of harming the Moslem, Christian, Druze and Jewish traditions."

These remarks were made yesterday by Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres at a reception in his honor at Kfar Tira at the house of Salah Mansur, a member of the local council, who is running for the chairmanship of the council on the Labor Party ticket against (Tariq 'Abd al-Hai), who is the chairman of the present council and is running on a RAKAH ticket.

Peres said that RAKAH activity harms the image of the Arab village and undermines cooperation between Jews and Arabs.

Village notables, teachers and school principals participated in the reception.

TEHRAN ANNOUNCES ARREST OF TWO FORMER MINISTERS

LD141113Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 14 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Communique No 10 of the Military Governorate of Tehran and district has been published as follows:

The persons here named, Mansur Ruhani, former minister of culture, and Fereydun Mahdavi, former minister of agriculture and minister of state, have been arrested in accordance with Article Five of the Martial Law Ordinance, approved in 1290 [as heard; 67 years ago].

[Signed] Gen Gholam-Ali Oveysi, military governor of Tehran and district

FIFTH MAJLIS SESSION DEBATES GOVERNMENT PROGRAM

LD141758Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1600 GMT 14 Sep 78 LD

[Excerpts] The fifth open session of the Majlis was held this evening under Mr Riazi in order to continue its debate on the government program. Prime Minister Ja'far Sharif-Emami and members of the cabinet also attended the session.

Mr Parviz Zafari, the member for Nahavand, opposing the government program, said: If you had paid any heed to people's expectations voiced by myself and my colleagues from this very place, and if you had allowed our voices to reach the people, then we would not be in this situation and would not have to face such disturbances.

Continuing his remarks, the member for Nahavand said: To accomplish any task, one needs faith. Only those who have faith in what they are doing can really and properly fulfill the task in hand. The existing power in the country ought to be used to safeguard the people's interests rather than to crush them. Our problem is that everyone is concerned with his own worries rather than with those of Iranian society. Iran is not a place for highwaymen, yet thieves have managed to operate in Iran as such; however, since it is no longer possible for them to act in this way, these people have left for other parts of the world to engage in revelry.

Mr Navvab Safa, the member for Esfahan, took the floor afterwards, and after referring to the situation in Esfahan and the declaration of the martial law, he said: I would like to ask what problems this martial law is going to solve? Then, addressing Mr Sharif-Emami, he said: If you can meet the challenge, then stay. If you cannot, please do not waste your time or the time of the country. The member then said: Do those individuals who lie to the shahanshah really love him, or do those who love him tell him the truth? Are those who love the shah the ones who do not keep saying "long live the shah" and simply get on with serving the country, or are they those who shout "long live the shah" and then plunder the country?

In conclusion, the member for Esfahan demanded the release of political prisoners.

At the end of Mr Safa's remarks, the session was adjourned by members' votes. Consequently, debates on the government program at the Majlis ended, and Mr Sharif-Emami is to answer members' questions in Saturday's open session. Afterwards, the members will cast their votes on the program.

Debate Continues

LD1415162 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 14 Sep 78 LD

[Text] In its fourth extraordinary open session today, the Majlis continued its debate on the government program. Today's session was held under the chairmanship of Mr 'Abdollah Riazi and in the presence of Mr Ja'far Sharif-Emami, the prime minister, and other members of the cabinet.

The debate was opened by Mr Manuchehr Yazdi, representative of the people of Ardakan, who continued his speech on the government program, which he had not concluded during the last session yesterday afternoon. Mr Yazdi referred to the press censorship exercised over the last few years and said: During this period the crudest and worst type of censorship has existed over the press. The censors have done everything possible to insure that published items leaned toward flattery and fawning.

Mr Me'matollah Qazi, representative of the people of Gorgan, also spoke at today's open session of the Majlis. Speaking in favor of the government program, he said: The Iranian nation rests on two fundamental pillars and principles: one is religion and the other is the shah. Without the Islamic faith the Iranian nation would be condemned to extinction. Should the Iranian nation be deprived of the imperial standard and the shadow of the shah it would lose its independence and nationhood.

The speaker added: At this sensitive juncture it is the duty of the entire Iranian nation to create a bond between these two principles. Those who seek to drive a wedge between religion and the shah are traitors to the nation. Now is the time for solidarity. The Iranian nation is a Moslem nation. It lives under the shadow of the Koran, and Islam has never permitted communism to grow. The Moslem Iranian nation also loves and worships its shah. Addressing himself to the Majlis deputies and the government members he said: If Iran--God forbid--is lost, we will be responsible.

Mr Qazi, the Gorgan deputy, continued his speech by saying: The shah is an authority who cannot be responsible. In accordance with the constitution, the shah does not bear responsibility. He is to be revered and held dear. He is our leader. Mr Sharif-Emami, if you wish to extirpate corruption you should establish a people's court. You should enact revolutionary laws. You should set up a people's court with the approval of religious leaders and arraign all the ministers and deputies in front of this court. And it would indeed be a happy man who comes out of this court with honor.

Mr 'Enayatollah Qa'emi, representative of the people of Abadeh, made a speech opposing the government program. He began with a reference to the manner in which previous governments have operated and attributed recent shortcomings to their lack of success in carrying out their programs. He added: As a government and as a head of a government you have not done anything except to invoke martial law. But it was your destiny that today you have inherited such a sorry state of affairs--a state of affairs that is the result of the actions of previous governments. Mr Qa'emi sharply criticized the martial law government and said: In these circumstances how do you expect us to recognize you as a government of reconciliation?

Mr Qa'emi said: The plunderers have robbed us in such a way that to prosecute them is simply not practicable. Instead, a people's court should be set up so that all those who, in one way or another, have had a hand in bringing about these circumstances may be tried. Continuing his speech he said: Why have you spent the money, which should have been spent on fundamental projects, for bananas, oranges and other luxury fruits from abroad?

I must say, however, that despite all these words and actions Iran shall remain and the Iranian people shall endure. Although I am friends with a number of people who are working within your government, I must, regrettably, give a negative vote to your government's working program.

The next speaker at today's session was Mr Ali Nazmi, representative of the people of Reza'iyeh, who, in his speech on the government program said: As far as I know and have learned, an anticorruption struggle, agricultural and industrial progress, economic and commercial development, public welfare and social justice are phrases that have continually been recorded in the programs of all government. Every government has worked out its program by repeating the same old sentences and phrases, with the result that every honorable Iranian now believes that Iran is in danger.

Recalling recent events he added: Mr Sharif-Emami, the single most important thing that brought your government to power was popular discontent and the desire to seek and destroy the roots of this discontent. For this reason you have a grave responsibility and an important mission.

The speaker added: The greatest evil in our society is the scourge of bureaucracy to which your attention should be drawn. I believe that if the principles of the revolution, which various governments have not been able to implement, were properly and perfectly carried out, this discontent would not exist. In conclusion he counseled the government to beware of lying to the people, not to show off in its measures, to appoint reliable individuals with good names and excellent records, to replace relations with order [as heard], not to be unduly generous with people, to eradicate discrimination, to give priority to securing social justice, and to give the people the freedom of speech and pen within the limits of the constitution.

The fifth speaker at today's extraordinary session of the Majlis was Mr Tabib, representative of the people of Bushehr, who spoke in opposition to the government's program. He said: This government, which has come to power in the name of national reconciliation, after declaring martial law and spilling innocent blood, has only 14 days later announced its program to the Majlis. And now, with such a program of action, it wishes to obtain a vote of confidence from the Majlis.

The speaker added: Could the basis of national reconciliation and cooperation among all national forces and all those who are devoted to the independence of the homeland and Iran's territorial integrity--which is the surest and most important basis of the new government--be found in the same events, incidents and measures which we have witnessed and observed? With such a prelude how could this government attract the national forces to itself or win everyone's cooperation?

Our correspondent's dispatch indicates that the fourth extraordinary session of the Majlis ended at 1300 and that further discussion has been postponed until this afternoon.

MINISTER COMMENTS ON CINEMA INCIDENT, ARRESTS

LD141654Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 14 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Mr Mohammad Baheri, Iranian minister of justice, today informed correspondents about the Rex Cinema incident in Abadan. The justice minister, who talked to correspondents at the National Consultative Assembly, said that fifteen days ago a youth, who had a hand in the arson at Abadan's Rex Cinema, was arrested by Iraqi officers.

After being handed over by the Iraqi authorities, he was immediately placed at the disposal of Abadan's examining judge. During his interrogation, the individual admitted things which indicated his having had a hand in the incident. At the time of his arrest, he identified himself by a pseudonym, but the examining judge was able to ascertain his true identity. In the course of his interrogation it became obvious that a few individuals had also collaborated with him. Thanks to the efforts of the examining judge, the real identity of one of these persons was discovered and he was arrested so that investigations could be carried out. However, in the preliminary interrogation he denied knowing the first individual; thus, further investigations had to be carried out into his case.

The justice minister added: Abadan's examining judge told me that the evidence has not yet convinced him, that the issue is extremely important, and that the Justice Ministry cannot--in front of the Iranian people--treat a case like that (?cavalierly). The examining judge and judges will work day and night, but they will never bring a dossier to court unless all the questions related to the incident are made clear. The examining judge said he and his colleagues would carry out their duty truthfully.

Mr Baheri continued: There are other individuals who are guilty, and had they taken any steps, this arson and fatal tragedy would not have taken place, or would not have been of the magnitude it was. The examining judge has drawn attention to these people and a number of them have been arrested. Here, too, appreciable progress has been made.

The minister of justice then added: Abadan has only one examining judge, and I am about to find another examining judge for that city.

EXILED TUDEH LEADER VIEWS RECENT DISORDERS

LD1314111Y Paris L'HUMANITE in French 11 Sep 78 p 12 LD

[Unattributed report: "The Opposition Forces Can Overthrow the Shah. A Statement to L'HUMANITE by the First Secretary of the Tudeh Party"]

[Text] In a European capital a L'HUMANITE correspondent has met with Iraj Eskandari, first secretary of Iran's Tudeh (communist) Party, who is forced to live in exile. Our correspondent writes: Iraj Eskandari describes the present movement of opposition to the shah as "popular, democratic and revolutionary."

Popular since an entire people have risen against the government throughout Iran; democratic since its objectives are the restoration of democratic freedoms and rights; and revolutionary since it aims to overthrow the present regime and to replace it with a democratic regime.

"This situation is not unexpected for our party," Iraj Eskandari says. "For 3 years ago our Central Committee predicted a period of upsurge of the people's movement on the basis of indications of discontent and action which we could already discern. There have been protest strike movements among the working people. Discontent among the peasants has deepened. Agricultural policy has resulted in a rush to the big cities by peasants, who swelled the existing great number of unemployed at the same time as 1 million foreign workers were hired."

Iran used to be a country which was self-sufficient in the agricultural sphere. It was an exporter of fruits. But today it has to import a great number of foodstuffs.

"Furthermore," the Tudeh Party leader adds, "the fierce repression, the attacks on the most elementary freedoms and the omnipresent intervention by SAVAK (the political police which appears in the smallest details of intellectual and private life, have become intolerable.

"Iranians see the presence of American advisers who dominate the army and police apparatus as an affront to their national feelings. These advisers enjoy many privileges and exorbitant salaries. Thus they are an element increasing the cost of living at a time when Iran is experiencing galloping inflation.

"This antinational, pro-American policy of plundering the nation's resources, and the fact that the shah has opened the door to all kinds of foreign products, swamping the national market and handing it over to foreign countries, have prompted the national bourgeoisie and petite bourgeoisie to join in the demonstrations. They are discriminated against by comparison with the thin stratum of the big bourgeoisie, which is closely linked with the royal family."

Iraj Eskandari believes that there is no well-established organization leading the movement. "All political meetings were repressed. The only place where people could meet was the mosque. It became the meeting place for all who wanted to struggle. This explains the great influence of the religious leaders."

The Tudeh Party respects the Shi'ite religion, the faith of most of the Iranian people. "We have never attacked religion," Iraj Eskandari says. "We find in the precepts of Islam many principles which we share, such as that of the equality of all men. Ali, Muhammad's son-in-law and the first Shi'ite caliph, left democratic teachings on the way to govern and severely criticized inequality of wealth. For instance, he wrote that a people who worship a monarch as the ancient Persians did cannot worship a god since you cannot worship two things at the same time."

The Tudeh Party has appealed to all the opposition forces to create a united front against the dictatorship (L'HUMANITE 6 September). The Iranian Tudeh Party believes that there are many common points among the opposition forces, which makes it possible to rally them "in order to overthrow the shah and establish a provisional government of national union reestablishing democratic freedoms and national independence and working to develop the people's well-being."

GOVERNORATE ALTERS CURFEW HOURS IN QOM DISTRICT

LD140955Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0900 GMT 14 Sep 78 LD

[Text] The Military Governorate of Qom township and district, in communique No 6, announced the following:

In order to facilitate and allow sufficient time for the Moslim and pious people of Qom to hold morning prayers, curfew hours in the Qom township and district, beginning 23 Shahrivar [14 September] have been changed and will now be from 2200 to 0400 the following morning. We thank the honorable and patriotic people of Qom for their sincere cooperation in maintaining calm and observing the martial law regulations.

[Signed] Maj Gen Kamal Nezami, military governor of Qom township and district

CHANGES IN LOCAL CURFEW HOURS REPORTED

LD140708Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0400 GMT 14 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Curfew hours in Kazerun have been reduced by 2 and 1/2 hours. The Military Governorate of Kazerun and district in its Communique No 8 states: In order to secure further prosperity and comfort for the respectable people of Kazerun and at the request of the people, the beginning of curfew hour in Kazerun and district will be delayed from 2000 to 2200 and the end of curfew hours from 0530 to 0500.

In its Communique No 5 the Karaj Military Governorate, while thanking the respectable citizens of Karaj for their sincere (?cooperation), emphasized that by securing prior permission from the Military Governorate, as has happened in effect during the past few days, the holding of evening parties, passion plays, sessions of dervishes and various religious meetings, weddings and scientific and cultural societies and congresses is possible for all strata of the people. The communique has requested the respectable citizens of Karaj not to double-park their cars in avenues, causing traffic jams.

PREMIER REVERSES CANCELLATION OF WORK PERMITS

LD150750Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0400 GMT 15 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Following the report on the cancellation of work permits of a number of tradesmen in Esfahan, published on behalf of the city's Military Governorate, Mr Manuchehr Azmun, minister of state for executive affairs, in a telephone conversation with our correspondent announced that the prime minister had instructed the Esfahan Military Governorate to refrain from canceling the work permits of such individuals so that the city's tradesmen could continue business with complete ease.

MINISTER: FARMERS PLEASED WITH PRICE INCREASES

LD150748Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0400 GMT 15 Sep 78 LD

[Excerpt] Mr Vishka'i, the commerce minister, in an interview with our correspondent, rebutted the rumor of the dissolution of the capital's Chamber of Guilds. He also said: Farmers were pleased with the government's announcement of price increases in wheat, and so far 670,000 tons of wheat from this year's harvest have been delivered to silos, and another 600,000 tons will soon be purchased.

INCREASES IN SOCIAL SECURITY PENSIONS ANNOUNCED

LD130912Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0800 GMT 13 Sep 78 LD

[Excerpt] On the basis of a resolution by the cabinet council, all retirement pensions, pensions for total disability, and pensions for the relatives of deceased pensioners from the social security fund have been increased. This decision was taken on the basis of Article 96 of the Social Security Law. The increases and adjustments in pensions will be as follows:

Pensions that began before the end of Esfand 1353 [20 Mar 1974] are to increase by 35 percent; pensions that began during 1354 [1975] are to increase by 31 percent; and pensions that began during 1355 [1976] are to increase by 14 percent.

AFGHANISTAN

MINISTER LEADS DELEGATION TO DPRK CELEBRATIONS

LDT141356Y Kabul in English to South Asia 1400 GMT 5 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Comrade Dastagir Panjshiri, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and minister of public works, left Kabul yesterday at the head of a high-ranking party and government delegation of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan for the People's Democratic Republic of Korea on the invitation of that country to participate in the 31st anniversary of the establishment of that government.

He was seen off at Kabul Airport by some members of the Politburo, of the government and of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan; some deputy ministers; general president of the civil aviation [words indistinct]; the governor and the mayor of Kabul; the ambassadors of the DPRK and of the Soviet Union in Kabul.

Comrade (Hafiz Arians), member of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and (?deputy) party secretary of information and publications (?and) deputy minister of information and culture; the governor and (?preventive) party secretary of Baghlan; and members of the Economic Relations Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs are members of the delegation.

INDIA

PTI REPORTS ON VAJPAYEE MOSCOW PRESS CONFERENCE

BK150220Y Bombay PTI in English 0131 GMT 15 Sep 78 BK

[Text] Moscow, Sep 15 (PTI)--Indian External Affairs Minister Mr Atal Bihari Vajpayee told a crowded press conference here yesterday he had assured Soviet leaders that India would not normalise relations with any country at the cost of ties with dependable friends like the Soviet Union.

In the light of his impending visit to China, which Mr Vajpayee said he would make in early November, the assurance was obviously prompted by Soviet disquiet over China's policies. He said he gave the assurance in all sincerity and if it satisfied the Soviet leaders it was for them to (?say). Answering questions from representatives of the international news media, Mr Vajpayee called for early resumption of the Soviet-American dialogue on demilitarisation of the Indian Ocean, adding "The Indian Ocean must be free of all foreign bases including Diego Garcia. The littoral states are in a position to guarantee freedom of navigation and it does not require big power rivalry in the Indian Ocean."

Addressing clearly the United States, which had called off the talks in view of developments in the Horn of Africa, Mr Vajpayee said no other consideration should be allowed to come in the way of continuing the dialogue which India had welcomed.

Mr Vajpayee, who expressed full satisfaction with the results of his talks with the Soviet leaders, described the Indi-Soviet relations as being "very excellent".

He disclosed that the CPSU leader, Mr Leonid Brezhnev, might visit India this winter. He said he had discussed the visit would take place between December and February which were cold months in India but the Indian people would receive Mr Brezhnev warmly. [sentence as received]

THOUSANDS OF CPI DEMONSTRATORS ARRESTED, RELEASED

BK150804Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 15 Sep 78 BK

[Text] About 1000 volunteers of the Communist Party of India led by the party chairman, Mr Dange, courted arrest in Bombay yesterday. They were taking part in the seek-long satyagraha [demonstration] launched to protest against the atrocities on Harijans, increasing unemployment and corruption. Later all of them were released.

In Calcutta, about 3000 CPI volunteers courted arrest yesterday. In Punjab 40 CPI workers were arrested in Kapurthala. In Bhatinda also some CPI workers courted arrest.

TRADE AGREEMENT INITIALED WITH BULGARIA

BK150241Y Bombay PTI in English 0136 GMT 15 Sep 78 BK

[Text] New Delhi, Sep 15 (PTI)--India and Bulgaria yesterday finalised a new trade agreement at official level, which is likely to become operative with effect from January 1, 1979.

The agreement will be signed at the ministerial level by the end of this year.

The draft agreement was initialed today by Mr Suresh Jumar, joint secretary in the Ministry of Commerce, and by Mr Georgi Vutev, deputy minister of foreign trade, Bulgaria.

PAKISTAN

'CLOSED-DOOR' POLITICAL ACTIVITIES ALLOWED

BK141721Y Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 14 Sep 78 BK

[Text] The chief martial law administrator has issued Martial Law Regulation No 40 which allows political parties to hold closed-door meetings of members of their executive committees. Under it the office-bearers of a political party may hold closed-door press conferences or give closed-door interviews to the press.

A meeting or a press conference or an interview will be deemed to be closed-door only if it is held in a building other than a temporary structure or enclosure or a building used or intended to be used or connected in any manner with any educational institution, place of public entertainment, worship or religious sanctity.

It would be considered closed-door when it is not open to the public in general and no loudspeaker or other similar appliance is used during the course of such meetings, conferences or interviews.

SEVERAL ARRESTED IN PESHAWAR AFTER BENAZIR BHUTTO SPEECH

BK151005Y Hong Kong AFP in English 0945 GMT 15 Sep 78 BK

[Text] Islamabad, Sep 15 (AFP)--More than a dozen workers of the Pakistan People's Party of former Prime Minister Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto were arrested in Peshawar yesterday for demonstrating in the streets, newspapers reported today.

The report said a procession was formed by party workers after a meeting addressed by Miss Benazir, daughter of the former prime minister.

Political meetings within an enclosure were permitted when military ruler Gen Ziaul Ha formed a civilian cabinet last month but the ban on street demonstrations and politic gathering in the open has not been lifted.

Speaking in Peshawar, capital of the Northwest Frontier Province, Miss Benazir reportedly criticized the military rule in Pakistan. She demanded release of Bhutto, who was sentenced to death by a high court last March for plotting a political murder while in power.

The supreme court is due to resume on September 16, after a 2-week break, its hearing of Bhutto's appeal against conviction.

The daily MUSAWAT, organ of the Pakistan People's Party, alleged that police using batons charged a crowd welcoming Miss Benazir in Peshawar, injuring several, and claimed that hundreds were taken into custody. But official sources described the report as incorrect.

SHAHI DEPARTS TO ATTEND MEETING IN LIBYA

BK141336Y Karachi Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 14 Sep 78 BK

[Text] The seventh session of the Pakistan-Libyan Joint Ministerial Commission is beginning in Tripoli tomorrow. A delegation of senior officials, including the federal finance secretary, has already arrived in the Libyan capital to attend the 5-day meeting of the officials of the two countries.

The adviser on foreign affairs, Mr Agha Shahi, left Karachi today on his way to Libya to lead the Pakistan delegation. The joint Ministerial Commission will review the progress of the (?ongoing) projects and consider new proposals.

SRI LANKA

PRESIDENT FILLS TELECOMMUNICATIONS PORTFOLIO

BK141341Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1319 GMT 14 Sep 78 BK

[Text] Colombo, Sep 14 (AFP)--President J.R. Jayewardene today completed his cabinet formation following the promulgation of a new constitution last week.

Two new ministers, three other ministers outside cabinet rank and 23 deputy ministers were sworn in by the president at his official residence at Kandy, 115 km (72 miles), from here this morning.

The former speaker, Mr Anandatissa de Alwis, 29, took his oath as minister of state in charge of information, broadcasting and aviation.

Mr Jayewardene had nominated Mr de Alwis to this post when he named his 27-member cabinet on September 7, the day on which the new constitution was promulgated, but Mr de Alwis did not take oaths on that day with the other ministers. He resigned from the speaker's post yesterday.

Mr. D. B. Wijetunga, minister of power and highways, was today given the additional portfolio of posts and telecommunications.

This followed the death last Saturday of the former minister of posts and telecommunications, Mr Shelton Jayasinghe.

A new speaker will be elected when Parliament next meets on September 21.

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